

REMARKS

This amendment is filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination.

Claims 9-18 were allowed in the Notice of Allowance issued July 11, 2006. It is submitted that claims 9-18 as amended herein should remain allowable, and that new dependent claims 19-21 are allowable over the prior art of record.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitsuaki OSHIMA

By: 

Jeffrey R. Filipek
Registration No. 41,471
Attorney for Applicant

JRF/fs
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
May 5, 2006